

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCE

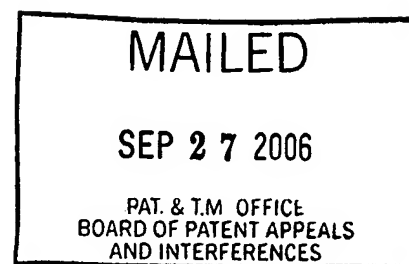
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Ex parte JOHN H. YOAKUM, GORDON QUINN  
and SAMUEL H. CHIRSTIE

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Application 10/647,999

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ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

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This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on September 8, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below.

March 24, 2006, appellants filed an Appeal Brief. A review of the file reveals that the “Summary of Claimed Subject Matter” does not map the independent claim to the specification, as set forth in 37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(v) which states:

*(v) Summary of claimed subject matter.* A concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, which shall refer to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters. For each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately under the provisions of paragraph (c)(1)(vii) of this section, every means plus function and step plus function as permitted by 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, must be identified and the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function must be set forth with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters.

Proper correction of the Appeal Brief is required.

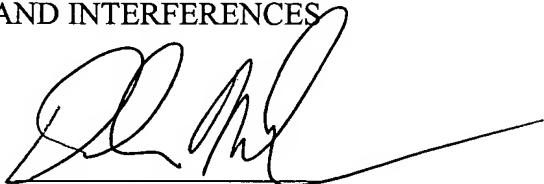
Accordingly, it is ORDERED that the application is return to the Examiner to:

1) hold the Appeal Brief filed on March 24, 2006, defective;

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- 2) notify appellant to file a supplemental Appeal Brief compliance with 37 CFR § 41.37;
- 3) if necessary vacate the Examiner's Answer mailed April 28, 2006, to consider the supplemental Appeal Brief and
- 4) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. M. Shaw', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DALE M. SHAW  
Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator  
(571)272-9797

DMS:pgc

cc: Withrow & Terranova, P.L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 1287  
Cary, NC 27512